

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 07242 011038Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SES-02 SAA-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 MCT-02 IO-13
TRSE-00 OMB-01 COME-00 ACDA-12 SY-05 /117 W
-----031118 012017Z /15

R 010838Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9596
INFO USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORS, PINS, IR, SHUM
SUBJ: MORE ON RECENT RIOTS

REF: TEHRAN 7182

SUMMARY: PRESS WRAPUP REPORTS 300 ARRESTED, SIX KILLED AND
26 INJURED IN 13 CITIES OVER PAST TWO WEEKENDS. SIZABLE
DEMONSTRATIONS IN QOM OVER PAST WEEKEND INCLUDING TWO-HOUR RAMPAGE.
ONE POLICEMAN KILLED IN EARLIER INCIDENT. ADDITIONAL RIOTS
OCCURRED IN KASHAN AND BEHBAHAN, TABRIZ TENSE, DISCONTENT UP
ELSEWHERE. END SUMMARY.

1. KEYHAN INTERNATIONAL (ENGLISH) ON JULY 30, 31 CARRIED SEMI-
OFFICIAL WRAPUPS ON PAST WEEKEND'S DEMONSTRATIONS. NEW ITEMS
NOT REPORTED REFTTEL INCLUDE DESCRIPTION OF QOM EVENTS AND INFO
ON OTHER RIOTS.

2. IN QOM, AYATOLLAHS SHARIATMADARI, GOLPAYEGAN AND
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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 07242 011038Z

NAJAFI MAR'ASHI HAD ORGANIZED MOURNING CEREMONIES AT
AZAM MOSQUE EVENING JULY 27. ABOUT 10 P.M. CROWD SET
OUT FROM MOSQUE AND BROKE BANK AND SHOP WINDOWS ALONG
MAIN STREET. POLICE WERE UNABLE TO BRING EVENTS UNDER
CONTROL UNTIL MIDNIGHT. ON JULY 27, POLICEMAN WAS
KILLED WHEN HE TRIED TO FIELD A LIVE HAND GRENADE THROWN
IN FROM A PASSING CAR.

3. PRESS ALSO REPORTS EVENTS IN SHIRAZ ADDITIONAL TO THOSE REPORTED REFTEL, INCLUDING ARREST OF 60-70 DEMONSTRATORS FOLLOWING MOURNING CEREMONIES AT JAMEH ATHIGH MOSQUE. IN ADDITION TO IAS STONING (REFTEL), TWO MOVIE HOUSES AND SEVERAL BANKS WERE DAMAGED.

4. US CONSUL METRINKO REPORTS TABRIZ BAZAAR WAS CLOSED JULY 29 IN COMMEMORATION OF DEATHS OF AYATOLLAHS. VOCAL DISCONTENT HAS INCREASED SHARPLY IN TABRIZ AS WELL AS IN ISFAHAN.

5. JOURNALIST HERE WHO HAS JUST BEEN IN CONTACT WITH NUMBER OF HIS PROVINCIAL SOURCES SAYS DISCONTENT WITH CURRENT SITUATION IS UP ELSEWHERE IN IRAN. THIS TAKES TWO FORMS: DISGUST THAT GOI HAS NOT CLAMPED DOWN ON DEMONSTRATORS AND INCREASED VOCAL EXPRESSIONS OF DISSATISFACTION WITH COST OF LIVING, BUREAUCRATIC INEFFECTIVENESS OF GOI AND "WHATEVER LOCAL ISSUES ARE BUGGING THE POPULACE." LATTER IS WIDESPREAD, FORMER IS PRIMARILY FOUND AMONG CIVIL SERVANTS, MERCHANTS AND OTHERS TIED TO MODERN SECTOR. WE HAVE HAD SOME HINTS THAT POLICE ARE BECOMING "FED UP" WITH WHAT THEY CONSIDER GOI'S SOFT POLICY, PARTICULARLY IN WAKE OF POLICE KILLINGS OVER PAST WEEKEND.

7. BEST ROUNDUP BEING SENT VIA USINFO TODAY.
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PAGE 03 TEHRAN 07242 011038Z

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TEHRAN07242
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780315-0106
Format: TEL
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197808110/aaaadopo.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2eb41759-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 TEHRAN 7182
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1572104
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MORE ON RECENT RIOTS
TAGS: PORS, PINS, SHUM, IR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2eb41759-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014